

Meaning swift and valued runner, the *Kukini* in ancient times took news from one Hawaiian leader to another.

HICKAM *Kukini*

Serving the Air Force Hawaii Community

HOT TOPIC

Friends of Hickam contribute to base.

Details on Page 3.

Vol. 11, No. 14

April 9, 2004

Hickam AFB, Hawaii



A helping hand at 'Base X'

Photo by Angela Elbern

Chaplain (Capt.) Sam Tucker attends to Staff Sgt. Mario Cano after he was 'wounded' at Base X during the Operational Readiness Exercise March 31. For more details on the exercise, turn to Page 12.

Assessment team visits Hickam

PACAF commander directs base sexual assault response review

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey
Kukini Editor

One of four Pacific Air Forces Sexual Assault Assessment teams visited Hickam April 2.

Based on 11 reported assaults at Hickam and 92 throughout the command during a three-year period, Gen. Bill Begert, PACAF commander directed the teams visit all nine installations in the command to review each base's sexual assault response program.

The team's fact-finding focus was to review Airmen's perceptions of sexual assault education and training, effectiveness of reporting procedures, response programs and program oversight

as well as the response to sexual assault charges, according to Col. Laura Battle, SAAT chief.

"PACAF leaned forward to do an electronic survey," Colonel Battle said. "Our visits to the bases are a follow-up to that survey to validate responses and supplement information as needed."

The team is looking at programs from an 'every Airman' perspective, she said. They will not only look at how the programs are working, but also the Airmen's perception on the issue of sexual assault.

Although they are early in compiling the information gathered during the visit, Colonel Battle said a trend has already emerged.

"Having a trained group of volunteers representing the spectrum of specialties in place to respond to an assault is a positive thing," she said. "This appears to be the direction we are headed in, and the commanders and base leaders really like the idea."

"This whole effort is evident that the Air Force takes sexual assault very seriously," Colonel Battle said.

"We've stepped out and done comprehensive surveys, followed up with intense interviews and meeting with all the different voices of the wing, representing a true cross section of the whole wing population."

"It makes me proud to be in the blue," she said.

Have we learned our lessons?

By Col. Jeff Fraser
15th Operations Group commander

It's interesting today as we contemplate a new world order with terrorism, new attitudes toward Europe, emerging dynamics in the Gulf states, and an evolving Asian Pacific area and contrast that with the similarities between those first meetings in 1947 as we faced the occupation of Germany, and then Japan.

We're caught between two valid axioms – one that says you shouldn't fight the previous war and one that says if you don't learn from history you're doomed to repeat it. In the middle is a balance between jumping to "tactical conclusions and taking enduring lessons that truly leverage your power into the future."

In the military we do well at collecting lessons learned. We plan exercises and base force structure decisions on them. According to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, Lt. Gen. Ronald Keys, the reason we performed so well during Operation Iraqi Freedom can be traced back to lessons learned from earlier conflicts, but what are some recent lessons we should know?

Lesson 1

We need to listen to warfighters. The answer isn't in the bureaucracy of staff studies and reviews. As Gen. John Jumper, Air Force Chief of staff, often comments, it'll be the "knee-board, wrench turning, communication wizard company grade officers, NCOs, and Airmen out there who'll see and think of the great ideas we need to implement". For example, as we lost opportunities to employ against fleeting terrorism targets, the need to shorten the

strike cycle became paramount. The Predator, originally envisioned as an intelligence platform, was soon armed and now delivers warheads only feet away from tactical controllers calling for fire. The capacity to see and make changes is a remarkable tribute to the mental acuity of our people. Today we conduct Eagle Flag, real world individual and base readiness training incorporating the latest threats, tactics and procedures to insure security forces, logisticians, and a variety of support specialties are ready to deal with today's threats, individual exploding devise, convoy and other mission requirements. Bottom line ... the importance of organizing, training and equipping ... that is, investing in our development, is the foundation of our success.

Lesson 2

Joint integration and adaptive planning are a must. Present realities don't bode well for a slowdown in operations tempo. Combined with the necessity for full spectrum capabilities, this means total force mixtures and complementary inter-service roles and functions will need an in-depth look.

Establishing associate structures with the Reserve component for C-17s at Hickam and F-22s at Langley are examples of such initiatives. Using the Army Reserve and Guard organizations providing force protection at many of our Air Force facilities is another. But more will have to be done. For example, should we form a similar arrangement for KC-135s stationed here at Hickam, or contract parts of our home-station security?

In like manner is our relationship with other services. In western Iraq, we saw significant airpower leverag-

ing the capability of small numbers of forces on the ground. These successes and others reinforce that we must be capable of autonomous operations by small, well-trained and equipped organizations. Economy of force considerations and combined-arms synergies will favor more autonomous units.

We continue also adapting capabilities for modern needs. Coming out of Afghanistan, we've found a seam between the time the Army captured an airfield and when the Air Force began operations. The idea of a Contingency Response Group has come from that. When the Army parachuted into northern Iraq, an Air Force CRG parachuted in with them. "Their job", General Keys said, "was to quickly analyze the airfield to determine what equipment would be required to make it operational."

Today we're studying the beddow of our C-17s and the possibility of establishing some kind of CRG within the wing. When availability is measured in hours and minutes, to have such an organization closely aligned with an airlift wing only enhances responsiveness.

Lesson 3

Expeditionary operations are the way of the future. Everything must be done within the framework of the AEF rhythm. Our force needs to be rapidly deployable and expedi-

“ We need to listen to warfighters. The answer isn't in the bureaucracy of staff studies and reviews. ”

Col. Jeff Fraser

15th Operations Group commander



tionary. However, we still don't have enough airlift and air refueling to support the pace of movement required. Many are adamant about the need for more C-17s, as it flew more sorties than any other during the contingency stage of OIF.

We have established

numerous air operations centers to pursue and employ air power. We continue to refine the functionality of these organizations as we deal with large manpower requirements and numerous distinctly unique systems. Imagine the impact on capability, manpower and other resources if the systems were fully integrated. That's where we've got to go.

We must create an environment where everyone is linked, people are empowered to adapt, and solutions are developed on the fly. As Airmen return from OIF, they are asked to report what went right or wrong so new lessons can be learned for the next contingency.

"If you go back to the reason we're so successful, it's because we had the trained people, the best technology and the best organization," General Keys said. "That didn't happen by accident, by sitting in an easy chair drinking coffee. It's a result of a lot of inventive people making hard choices. I think that says a lot about our Air Force."

Action Lines



The purpose of the Action Line is in its name – it's your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. It also allows you to recognize individuals who go "above and beyond" in their duties – and we all know there are plenty of those folks here. All members of Team Hickam are welcome to use the Action Line, however, I urge you to give the normal chain of command the first crack at

resolving problems or issues.

It's only fair to give our commanders and managers the first opportunity to work issues under their responsibility. If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you want me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response.

I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.



Team Hickam – No One Comes Close

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Deadline for copy is 1 p.m. Friday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed and double-spaced or e-mailed, in 12-point type and on a 60-character line.

Bombers on base

Capt. Jerry Loeffelbein, 15th Airlift Wing's Airfield Operations Flight commander, monitors the take off of a B-52 Stratofortress Tuesday. Four B-52s deployed to Hickam to escape Typhoon Sudal which was expected to hit Andersen AFB, Guam, the aircraft's temporary station. The B-52s are forward-deployed to the 36th Air Expeditionary Wing from Minot AFB, N.D.

Photo by Mike Dey



NCO Academy graduates class 04-1

By Master Sergeant Tammy Whitney-Rush
Hickam Professional Military Education Center
Director of education

Approximately 40 NCO Academy Class 04-1 members graduated March 31.

More than 250 guests were treated to a banquet at the Tradewinds' Enlisted Club, highlighted by guest speaker Chief Master Sgt. Dennis Palmer, 15th Operations Squadron superintendent.

Technical Sgt. Michael Low from 735th Air Mobility Squadron garnered top honors as the John L. Levitow Award recipient. Tech Sgt. Robert Woodin from 15th Communications Squadron was the recipient of the Commandant's and Distinguished Graduate Awards. Tech. Sgt. Daniel Olson from the 324th Intelligence Squadron earned the Academic Achievement Award.

Other distinguished graduates included Tech Sgts. Beau Jones from 15th CS and William Travers from Air Force Element Personnel Exchange Program.

Additionally, class members volunteered their off-duty time to the local Winners Camp, a residential accelerated learning program for teens ages 13 to 17. They spent a day cleaning, painting, removing plumbing/hardware and enclosing a roof generator. The student's also assisted the faculty in roadside cleanup for the PME Center's Adopt-a-Highway program.

Upon graduation from the NCO Academy, each student receives 11 college credits from the Community College of the Air Force. Graduation from the NCO Academy completes the second of three levels of Air Force professional military education.

Other technical sergeants of the graduating class were: 15th Airlift

Wing – **Belgrave M.L. Millington**; 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron – **Anthony Blanco**; 15th Civil Engineer Squadron – **Dennis Nelson** and **Damon Smith**; 15th CS – **Sharifah Shabazz**; 15th Contracting Squadron – **Gregory Crump** and **Cynthia Norton**; 15th Medical Operations Squadron – **Polly Oetting**; 15th OG – **Sandra Lewis**; 15th Security Forces Squadron – **Gerald Harris**; 17th Operational Weather Squadron – **Dwayne Klinzmann**, **Thomas Cross** and **Todd Winters**; 56th Air and Space Plans Squadron – **Daniel Parker**; 56th Air Communications Squadron – **Michael DeFalco**; 154th Maintenance Squadron – **Aaron Silva**; 324th IS – **James Brin** and **Michael Brown**; 502nd Air Operations Squadron – **Julie Gionet**; 692nd Information Operations Group – **Darrell Evans**;

735th AMS – **Stephen Field**, **Morris Simms** and **Patrick Brannon**; Air Force Office of Special Investigation, Detachment 632 – **Darryl Shurow**; Detachment 15th Air Force Research Laboratory – **Khalid Golden**; Detachment 175th, AF Reserve Officer Training Corps – **Deneen Thompson**; Detachment 419th Air Force Technical Application Center – **Brian Rufe**; Detachment 421st Air Force Technical Application Center – **Steven Clark**; HQ PACAF – **Thomas J. Adams**; HQ PACAF Director of Operations – **James Parris** and **Don Sims**; HQ PACAF Manpower – **Hein Parker**; Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific – **Jason Epperson** and **Robert Jones**; PACAF Regional Supply Squadron – **Erick Bannick**; U. S. Pacific Command – **Michael Tomaszewski**.

Friends of Hickam

Your kama'aina 'friends' support you

By Bette Kalohi
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

There's a not-so-secret society of local civic leaders who silently labor on behalf of Hickam's Air Force members and their families.

Every year they contribute thousands of dollars and numerous man (or woman) hours to various projects or events on base which support Hickam families.

Friends of Hickam, Inc. is a group of 150 dedicated businessmen and women whose mission is the improvement of the quality of life for Hickam Airmen.

Traditionally, the Friends of Hickam have contributed more than \$20,000 through various projects such as the popular Aloha Ohana newcomers bus tour of the island. This tour, underwritten by FOH, Inc., normally would cost participants \$50 to \$75 per person. It is free of charge to Hickam newcomers and introduces new arrivals to the island,

its' cultures and sights. The tour is offered bi-monthly through the newcomers orientation program.

This year's annual project fulfilled the need for new picnic tables at the newly refurbished super playground.

FOH funded brand new picnic tables, benches and tables that would accommodate physically challenged persons for the comfort and safety of those families using the playground.

Two, first-rate barbeque pits were constructed in October 2001 for dorm residents as part of another annual project. FOH members and dorm residents along with commanders and civil engineering experts actually built the grills. The following year, a picnic area was built, landscaped and furnished to complete the two-year project.

When the First Term Airmen's Center was built, they were in need of furniture. FOH purchased state-of-the-art computer tables to complete the FTAC in July 2000.

FOH funded and built the patio at the Airmen's dining facility in April 1999 and also provided the patio furnishings and decorative landscaping. FOH members slung cement along side Hickam Airmen, NCOs and commanders and planted palm trees just so patrons could enjoy the outdoors while eating meals.

In 1998, the FOH, Inc. brought a complete luau to the dormitory residents. Complete with authentic foods and entertainment, they even provided the traditional "Imu" (pit) which was dug and prepared near the dorms for residents to observe. The full pig and all the trimmings were roasted in the pit and ready for the late afternoon luau. About 500 dorm residents enjoyed Polynesian dancing, music and luau buffet.

In addition to the annual project, FOH contributes to Operation Warmheart, providing donations for Thanksgiving dinners to enlisted families and donating to the annual awards banquet to lower the cost of tickets for younger Airmen.

Bouncing back: *AFAF helped Airman recover*

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey
Kukini Editor

Help is decidedly a four-letter word.

Those in a position to provide assistance, from base clergy to medical authorities to the family support center all tell the same tale: the hardest part is convincing those in need to do both the easiest and hardest thing.

Simply ask ... for help.

For Airman First Class Iris Figueroa, 324th Intelligence Squadron, her path to potential credit ruin was paved with good intentions.

"I found myself early in the year with a financial crisis," Airman Figueroa said. "I thought it smart to mail four post-dated checks of \$150 each to one of my credit card companies in anticipation of not having to worry about mailing my monthly payments out for the next several months. What could be easier than sending a creditor payments in advance?"

As it turned out, plenty could go wrong, she shared. By trying to do the right thing, she inadvertently gave the debtor carte blanche to make her a bouncer of checks.

"When payday hit. I noticed my checking account was short \$600," she said. "With less than a year in service, it's my entire bi-monthly check.

"I called the bank and was advised the credit card company deposited all four at once, and since I couldn't cover the amount of the checks, each check had a \$25 overdraft fee," she said.

Instantaneously, \$600 became \$700.

Like so many Airmen before her, she found herself in dire need of financial assistance. Unlike others, she was willing to swallow hard and do what was necessary to get her situation addressed.

Ask for help.

Her first stop was the 324th IS first sergeant, Chief Master Sgt. Mary Kochel.

"Chief Kochel advised me that the Air Force Aid

Society might see this as a financial crisis and so she would speak with them on my behalf," Airman Figueroa said. Just two days later, she had a grant check from the AFAS.

Though at times it's hard to get those in need to come forward, the AFAS team has done everything possible to streamline assistance, according to 2nd Lt. Cherissa Dechico, 15th Family Support Center Family Readiness chief.

"The application process is very easy," Lieutenant Dechico said. "It consists of service member's information, a budget sheet and a brief explanation, with their commander or first sergeant concurrence, why they are seeking help."

For more information or to apply, contact Lieutenant DeChico at 449-0300.

The Hickam AFAF drive runs through April 25.

For more information about the AFAF program, contact 1st Lt. Kim Drews, Hickam AFAF program coordinator, at 449-0011.

Around the Air Force

Editor's Note: For these full Air Force stories and more check out www.af.mil.

Jumper urges Airmen to 'stay encouraged' – INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey – The war on terrorism, force shaping and the new fitness program are all major priorities in today's Air Force, said the service's senior leader during a visit here Monday.

With the recent gruesome murders of four U.S. contractors and the almost daily loss of American servicemembers' lives, the Air Force chief of staff's speech focused on ensuring Airmen stay encouraged throughout the fight.

"There are a lot of uncertainties with what's going on in Iraq," Gen. John Jumper said. "It's not very encouraging; but terrorists are people we have nothing in common with. They killed 3,000 people during the Sept. 11 attacks but would have killed 3 million without remorse if they could have. We have to stay resolute."

Although every Airman is needed for the fight, General Jumper said streamlining the existing force through the force-shaping program still remains a priority for Air Force leaders.

"During the 90s, we reduced our force by about 40 percent, but we didn't take the slots away," he said. "People were moved from critical skills to fill those slots, and we need them back. We're 16,000 people over our end strength."

"We don't want to kick out people who want to stay in," General Jumper said. "We'll continue our efforts to offer a way out for those who are ready to go and also rely on attrition."

For those who remain, the fitness program remains a concern.

"A lot of people are concerned about the waist measurement," he said. "I'm not worried about anyone maxing out the test; all I care about is if



you pass and pass as a unit."

General Jumper said too many people are kicked out of the Air Force each year because of fitness issues. (Story by Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles, 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs)

Air Force announces Thrift Savings Plan open season – RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Civilian and military employees can sign up for, or change, their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the open season April 15 to June 30.

The plan offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck "so you never have to think about it," Sergeant Ortiz said. "That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while only investing what you deem appropriate."

More information about TSP can be found in

the booklet "Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan" on the TSP home page under civilian or uniformed services TSP Forms and Publications. (Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

Electronic recorder adds realism to bugle playing – TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. – The Tinker Air Force Base Honor Guard recently received three ceremonial bugles which play a high-quality recording of "Taps," helping to show the nation's deepest gratitude at the funerals of those who have served their country.

The Department of Defense worked with a private company to create the small device which fits inside the bell of a real bugle and plays a performance of "Taps" recorded at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day 1999.

Using digital-audio technology, it is designed to be virtually indistinguishable from a live performance.

The ceremonial bugle is cared for in the same way as any other instrument except for the added precaution of avoiding moisture building up behind the speaker. Each horn costs \$550 and requires two 9-volt batteries.

The bugle is intended to be a dignified alternative to playing prerecorded "Taps" on a compact disc or cassette player.

Some families do not want to have a CD or cassette when a live performance is not possible, and the new horns give them a more favorable option, said Staff Sgt. Douglas Picard, assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of the honor guard.

He said most families cannot tell the difference between the ceremonial bugle and a live performance. The sound is so realistic, one family complimented the bugler for "the finest rendition of 'Taps' they had ever heard," he said. (Story by Crystal Toenjes Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center Public Affairs)



TEAM HICKAM

News Notes

Adopt-a-Stream clean-up set for May 1 – Hickam (in conjunction with the City and County of Honolulu) will be sponsoring an Adopt-A-Stream cleanup effort May 1. Team Hickam members will clean up three streams/channels in the Waimanalo area. Volunteers will meet at 7 a.m. in the Burger King parking lot and will return around noon. Participants will drive their own vehicles to the cleanup sites. Personnel without a car may

carpool with other participants. Children 12-18 years old are allowed to participate as well. Gloves and trash bags will be provided.

All volunteers contact Senior Master Sgt. Lewis Weaver at 449-7456.

Heartlink is May 7 – The family support center is hosting the Heartlink program for all new Air Force spouses who would like to learn more about military acronyms, customs and their role in the Air Force mission. The one-day session of interactive games and activities are scheduled for May 7 from 7:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the FSC. Childcare is provided and lunch is free. To reserve a seat, call 449-0300.

Hickam Fitness Center Closing – The Hickam Fitness Center will be closed April 22 through 26 for termite fumigation. During this time all personnel who have items in lockers need to remove these items no later than April 21. Once the facility is reopened all lockers will convert to daily use only. This is in support of all customers since the demand for lockers is much greater than what can be handled. The fitness center staff recom-

mends that during this time people look for alternate avenues to crosstrain by swimming, running, hiking, rollerblading and other outdoor activities. The center should be back in full operation April 27. For more information contact the fitness center at 449-1044.

NHKS annual auction – Navy Hale Keiki School will hold its 11th annual silent and live auction, "Mardi Gras ~ Aloha Style" April 17 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Hickam Officers' Club. Ticket prices are \$15 per person, which includes heavy pupus, live entertainment and a full cash bar. This year's proceeds are targeted for classroom computer upgrades and safety upgrades for the school's playground structures. If you would like to make a donation or purchase tickets for the auction, contact Lisa Schapel at sydneyann1313@aol.com or 227-0954. All donations are tax deductible.

Hickam Thrift Shop – For sales the Hickam Thrift Shop is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and the second Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For consignments the

thrift shop is open Monday through Friday and the second Saturday of every month from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 449-6603 for further information and to be placed on the furniture/large item waiting list.

Educational opportunity – The University of Oklahoma offers a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics and a Master of Public Administration. Non-thesis programs can be completed in about 18 months. Our one-week classes are TDY/TAD friendly. Contact OU at 449-6364 or for more information or visit our website at www.goou.ou.edu.

MWR Boarding Kennel Opens – The MWR Boarding Kennel located at the Halawa State Quarantine site in Halawa Valley is open for cats and dogs. The cost to board a dog is \$12 and a cat is \$10 per day. Limited spaces are available for eligible patrons who include active duty, department of defense civilian, retirees and reserve personnel who are deploying, awaiting housing or just going on vacation. Call 368-3456 for information or reservations.

Chapel

Protestant

Nelles Chapel

Sunday contemporary service – 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Worship – 11:15 a.m.
Good Friday Tenebrae service – 5:30 p.m.
Good Friday Footwashing service – 7 p.m.

Chapel Center

Sunday traditional – 8:30 a.m.

Catholic

Nelles Chapel

Saturday confessions – 4:15 p.m.
Saturday Mass – 5 p.m.

Chapel Center

Sunday Mass – 10 a.m.
p.m.
Good Friday Catholic service – 3 p.m.
April 10 Easter Vigil Mass – 7 p.m.

Chapel Center

Sunday Mass - 10 a.m.

Jewish

Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor Aloha Chapel, 471-3971.

Orthodox

For more information, call 438-6687.

Islamic

Friday congregational service - 1 p.m.
Muslim Association of Hawaii, 947-6263.

Editors note: *For more information on Base Chapel services or for prayer requests call the Chapel Center at 449-1754 or Nelles Chapel at 449-6562.*

Movies

Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

"Twisted" - Police detective, Jessica Shepard, tracks a serial killer who murders the men she dates. When Jessica begins blacking out before each murder takes place, her partner, Mike Delmarco, and the police commissioner target her as the prime suspect. Starring Ashley Judd and Samuel Jackson. Rated R (for violence, language and sexuality).

Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.

"Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen" - New York City teenager, Lola, rules her school. She's the most popular kid around and

assumes that will always be the case. But when her family moves to the suburbs, she finds that at her new school, Carla is the "drama queen" in residence.

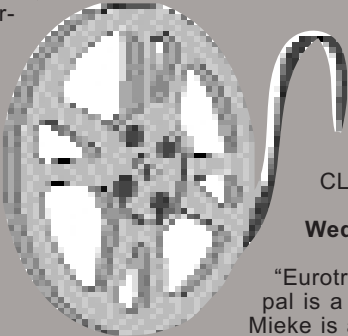
Starring Lindsay Lohan and Adam Garcia. Rated PG-13 (for mild thematic elements and brief language).

Monday and Tuesday CLOSED

Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

"Eurotrip" - Scott thinks his German pen pal is a guy. But when he discovers that Mieke is actually a hot babe, Scott and his buddy Cooper buy plane tickets and head across the Atlantic to visit.

Starring Scott Mechlowicz and Michelle Trachtenberg. Rated R (for sexuality, nudity, language and drug/alcohol content).





A mighty rip

Reds’ player Donaven Mayer takes a huge swing in an attempt to put the ball in play during a ‘coach pitch’ Little League game opening day Saturday.

Photo by Jerry Banks

‘Major’ League Standings

Current as of April 8

Team	W	L	GB
Cardinals	2	0	-
Red Sox	1	1	1
Rangers	1	1	1
Cubs	0	1	1.5
Yankees	0	1	1.5

Aloha Classic Basketball Tournament

Beale Dragons scorch Hickam Flyers 49-22



By Airman Ryan Simpson
Staff Writer

The Hickam Flyers squared off against the young Beale Dragons at the Aloha Classic Basketball Tournament Monday at the Hickam Fitness Center.

The Flyers quickly faced reality as the Dragons showed no mercy demolishing the Flyers on their home court with a 49-22 victory.

Team Hickam began the game with the momentum gained from controlling the tip-off but quickly lost it as shooting guard Chris Gray stole the ball and energy from the team that was never recovered.

With support from his team the 6-foot-8-inch Dragon, Bernard James, took complete control of the game dominating the post and all rebounds.

James had 10 points, seven rebounds and five blocks in the first half alone.

The Dragons got support from all aspects of their team. Jonathan Lee came off the bench with one minute in the half to score a quick and clean four points, adding to his team's lead.

Hickam Flyer team leader Nate Stephens tried his best to keep his team in the game providing more than half of his team's points going into halftime.

The Beale Dragons showed the home team no respect as they pushed the team right into the locker room with a halftime score of 29-9.

The Dragons full of energy, returned from their halftime picnic not even missing a beat. They quickly tacked on 10 points to their already tremendous lead.

The Flyers tried to bounce back by adding 10 points to their score courtesy of the foul line due to the Dragons being in the one-and-one penalty.

The Hickam Flyers are down but still have hope as the official tournament starts today and Saturday.

Photo by Angela Elbern

Beale Dragon's center Bernard James jumps over Hickam Flyers as he puts in an easy two points in the opening game of the tournament.